

NOTES ON THE SYNONYMY AND DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN HISTERIDAE (COLEOPTERA).

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Hololepta fossularis Say [= *aequalis* Say].—Say published both these names together. On basis of page priority Carnochen substituted *aequalis* for the long-used *fossularis*. Marseul, as first reviser, used *fossularis*, and his action stands.

Platysoma leconti Marseul [= *Platysoma depressum* Le Conte 1845 nec *Hister depressum* Fabr.].—Le Conte misidentified his material as *Hololepta depressa* Paykull 1811 [= *Hister depressum* Paykull, Fauna Suecica a misidentification of *Hister depressum* Fabr., 1787]. Marseul 1853 renamed the American species (misidentified by Le Conte as *depressum*) *leconti*. The European species he treated under the name *Platysoma depressum* Fabr. but Bickhardt 1916 sank it as a synonym of *compressum* Hbst. 1783. Nevertheless the name *depressum* is not available for any species of *Platysoma* later than Fabricius 1787, and the custom of recent American authors following Casey 1916 to use it as valid instead of *leconti* is incorrect and must be reversed. The original spelling was *leconti*, not *lecontei*.

Psiloscelis blanchardi Casey. This species is identified in the Le Conte and Fall collections as *repletus* J. E. Le Conte, as it was formerly in Casey's own collection. It is absurd for Casey to refer to *repletus* as a *nomen nudum* an act in which he has been followed by Hatch. *Repletus* was originally described at length and figured, hence is a fully available name. It may be considered a *species inquirenda* until the type can be located and examined, or a neotype selected, and in the meantime the name *blanchardi* may be retained.

Hister osculatus Blatchley and *H. dispar* Lec. Both belong to the subgenus *Paralister* although not mentioned by Hinton in his review of the subspecies of that genus (Can. Ent., 1936, 68: 268-272).

Pseudister hospes Lewis '02. This species was described from a specimen said to have been collected by H. H. Smith at Ulster, N. Y., and seems not to have been again found, at least I do not find it in any collection that I have examined nor did Casey see it. It was apparently known to Hinton (who published a key to the species in Can. Ent., 1935, 67: 11-15) only from the type and Casey had not seen it in 1916. All other species of *Pseudister* are neotropical, and as H. H. Smith collected extensively for many years in South America, sending much material to England it seems not unlikely that this may really be a South American insect. Smith's New York collecting was done many years earlier, is largely in the Cornell University collection and seems unlikely to have come into the hands of Mr. Lewis. At any rate the species should be regarded as a member of our fauna only with suspicion until it is re-discovered.